
2003 Wis Eth Bd 04
IMPROPER USE OF OFFICE

The Ethics Board advises:

Laws administered by the Ethics Board are not an impediment to the Legislature's reimbursing a legislator for costs the legislator incurred to purchase supplies for his or her legislative office.

Advice

¶1 Laws administered by the Ethics Board are not an impediment to the Legislature's reimbursing a legislator for costs the legislator incurred to purchase supplies for his or her legislative office.

¶2 The issue, if there is an issue, is how, if it at all, the Legislature's rules and the state's purchasing requirements pertain. Any arrangement you make with the Chief Clerk for reimbursement of these costs will be consistent with Wisconsin's Ethics Code; but please note that purchasing supplies seems to be highly regulated by statutes and by practices of the Department of Administration. Moreover the Legislature, to boost confidence in its own operation, has its own considerations that lead it to avoid doing business with its own members. The Chief Clerk may not be able to accommodate the Legislator's request.

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